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None

(58) Field of search

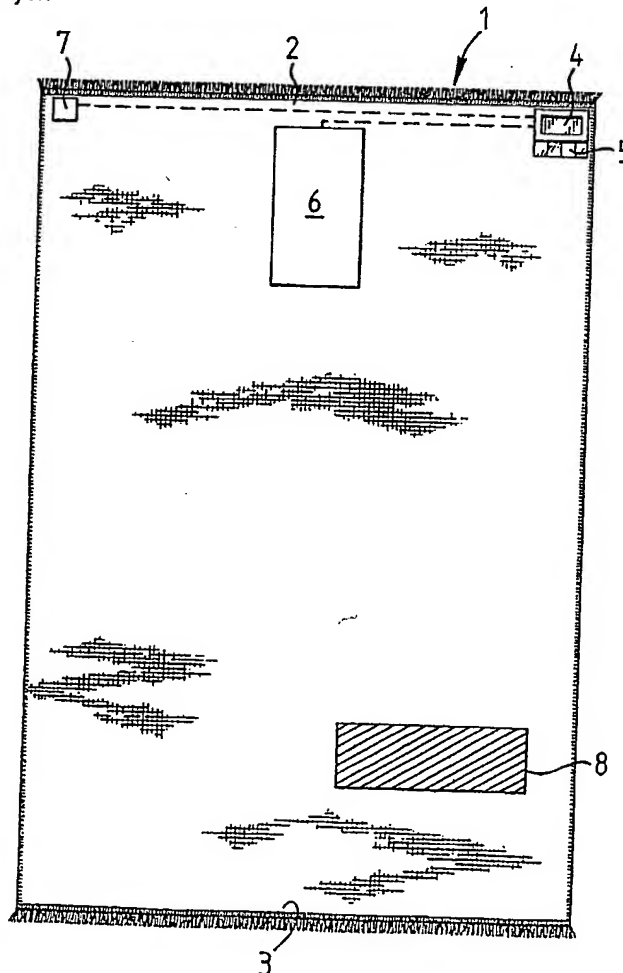
UK CL (Edition K) G4D DAC DAX

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Online databases: WPI

(54) Prayer mat

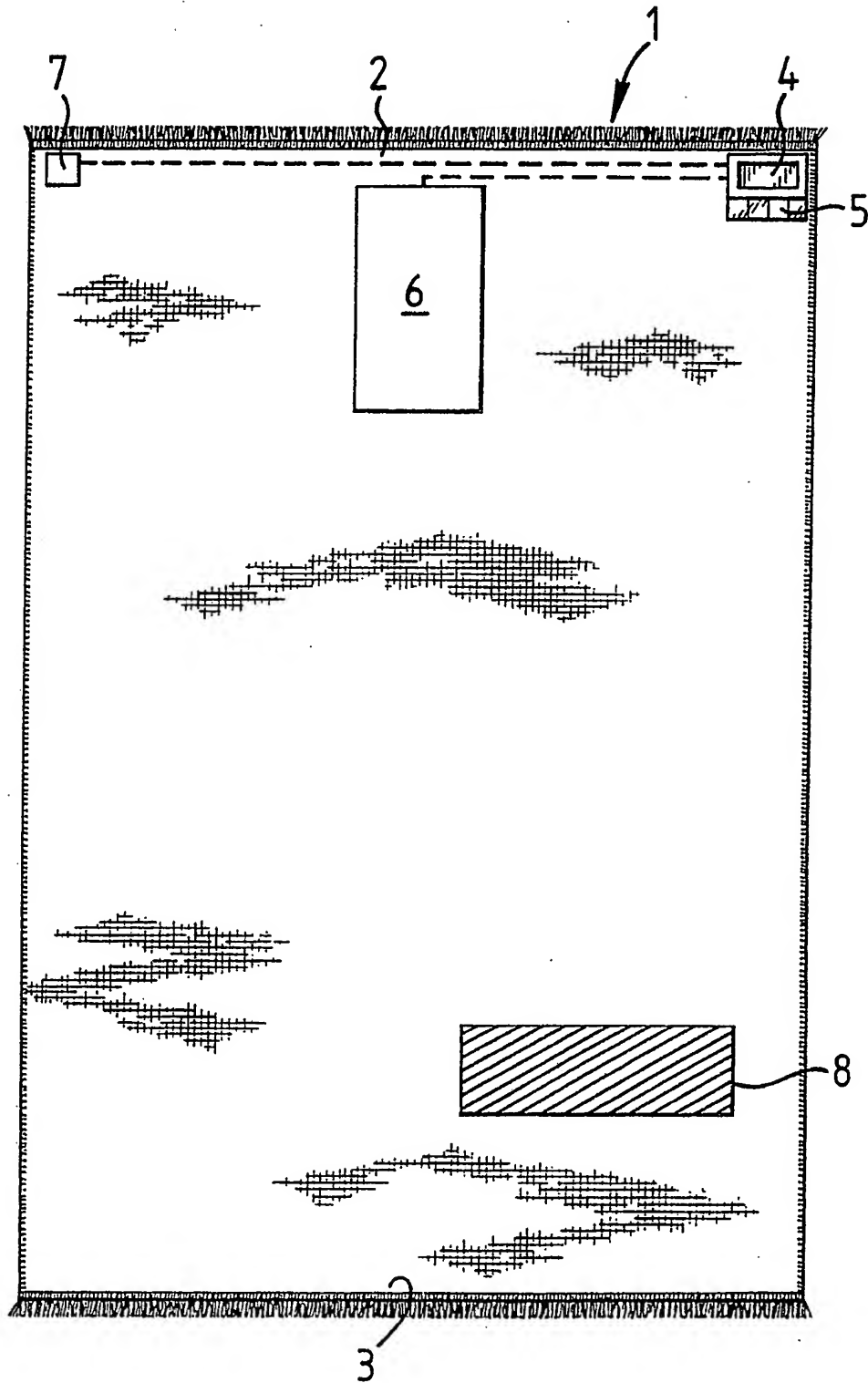
(57) A prayer mat (1) comprises a solar powered electrical circuit (5) including a liquid crystal display (4) and a switch pad (6) operable by a forehead of a worshipper when prostrate on the mat during Sajda. The display (4) records the number of Rakats executed during prayer.



GB 2 263 003 A

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A Prayer Mat

This invention relates to a prayer mat.

During Islamic prayers worshippers carry out the following ritual:-

Iqamah : Upright standing position facing the Kaba (Mecca) with feet apart.

Ruku : Bowing position with a straight back and hands on knees.

Sajda : Prostration on a prayer mat whereby the toes of both feet, knees, palms of both hands, the tip of nose and the forehead touch the mat.

The sequence commencing with Iqamah and proceeding to Ruku, then to Sajda and finally back to the standing Iqamah position is called a "Rakat".

However, a Rakat is only completed if, during Sajda, the worshipper twice touches the mat with the forehead.

According to the present invention, there is provided a prayer mat comprising an electrical circuit including means for supplying power to the circuit, a display for displaying in turn digits in a series of digits, a switch and a counter for

counting a sequence of operations of the switch and for controlling the display to display digits indicative of the sequence so that the display indicates the number of Rakats carried out during prayer.

Preferably, the counter is controlled to change digits displayed only on alternate operations of the switch.

Following is a description, by way of example only and with reference to the accompanying drawing, of one method of carrying the invention into effect.

The drawing is a plan view of an embodiment of a prayer mat in accordance with the present invention.

Referring to the drawing, there is shown an elongate rectangular prayer mat 1 of flexible material having a transverse head margin 2 and a transverse foot margin 3. The head margin 2 has located at a right hand end portion thereof a liquid crystal display 4 and an associated solid state solar powered integrated circuit 5 incorporating a counter for controlling display of digits in the display 4. The circuit 5 includes an elongate switch pad 6 located centrally of the mat 1 adjacent the head margin 2, such that a longitudinal axis of the switch pad 6 extends longitudinally of the mat 1. The circuit 5 also includes an on/off operating switch 7 which is located at a left hand end portion of the head margin 2.

The arrangement of the switch pad 6 is such that the switch is

operated by the forehead of a worshipper during Sajda. The switch pad 6 is elongate so as to be actuable by worshippers of different heights, when positioned for Sajda.

The circuit 5 is adapted such that the counter is controlled to change digits displayed only on alternate operations of the switch pad 6.

Thus, operation of the switch pad 6 effects display of digits at the display 4 as follows:-

1st operation 00 is displayed
2nd operation 01 is displayed
3rd operation 01 is displayed
4th operation 02 is displayed and so on.

The display 4 therefore is set to indicate increase by one digit upon every two operations of the switch pad 6. In this manner, the counter counts the number of Rakats executed during prayer.

Preferably, the prayer mat 1 is provided with a foot grip 8 to prevent toes of a worshipper's right foot from slipping from an initial position during a prayer.

It will be appreciated that the display 4 may comprise a system other than liquid crystal and may, for example, comprise light emitting diodes.

Furthermore, it will be appreciated that the solar powered circuit 5 will respond to radiation from artificial light and, therefore, solar radiation includes radiation from an artificial light source.

Claims

1. A prayer mat comprising an electrical circuit including means for supplying power to the circuit, a display for displaying in turn digits in a series of digits, a switch and a counter for counting a sequence of operations of the switch and for controlling the display to display digits indicative of the sequence so that the display indicates the number of Rakats carried out during prayer.
2. A prayer mat as claimed in Claim 1 wherein the counter is controlled to change digits displayed only on alternate operations of the switch.
3. A prayer mat as claimed in Claim 1 or Claim 2 wherein the switch is elongate and is arranged so that a longitudinal axis thereof extends longitudinally of the mat.
4. A prayer mat as claimed in any one of the preceding Claims wherein the said means is charged by solar radiation.
5. A prayer mat substantially as hereinbefore described and as illustrated in the accompanying drawing.

6
Patents Act 1977
Examiner's report to the Comptroller under
Section 17 (The Search Report)

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Relevant Technical fields

(i) UK Cl (Edition K) G4D (DAC DAX)

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Search Examiner

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Databases (see over)

(i) UK Patent Office

(ii) ONLINE DATABASES: WPI

Date of Search

8 DECEMBER 1992

Documents considered relevant following a search in respect of claims 1 TO 5

Category (see over)	Identity of document and relevant passages	Relevant to claim(s)
	NONE	

Category	Identity of document and relevant passages	Relevant to claim(s)

Categories of documents

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